REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow. This amendment adds, changes and/or deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

Claims 134-146 are requested to be cancelled. Claim 111 is currently being amended. After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 111-128 and 130-133 are now pending in this application. No new matter was added.

Applicants appreciate the indication that claims 111-128 and 130-133 would be allowed is rewritten to overcome the §112, ¶2 rejection. In response, claim 111 has been amended to overcome the §112, ¶2 rejection and claims 134-146 have been cancelled. Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance.

Claims 111-146 were rejected under §112, ¶2 as being indefinite because the term "allow for possibility" was considered vague. In response, step (1) of claim 111 has been amended to recite "treating a surface of at least one of a device substrate and a handle substrate to prepare the at least one of the device substrate and the handle substrate for allow for a possibility of formation of a low resistance electrical contact between the device substrate and the handle substrate in a subsequent step" (i.e., in step (2) of claim 111). Applicants submit that the amendment is sufficient to overcome the rejection. If the Examiner believes that the amendment does not overcome the rejection, then applicants are willing to delete the whole "to prepare the at least one of the device substrate and the handle substrate for formation of a low resistance electrical contact between the device substrate and the handle substrate in a subsequent step" term from claim 111 to overcome the rejection.

Claims 134-146 were rejected under §102(e) and §103(a) over Kub, alone or in combination with Gosele. Claims 134-146 have been cancelled, rendering the rejection moot.¹

Claims 96-132² were rejected under the doctrine of obviousness type double patenting over claims of co-pending applications 11/004,808 and 11/004,948. Applicants submit herewith a terminal disclaimer to overcome the rejection.

Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

¹ Claims 134-146 were cancelled to expedite the allowance of the present application. The cancellation of these claims should not be construed as acquiescence that the rejection of these claims was proper. Applicants reserve the right to present these claims in a continuation application.

² It is believed that claims 111-146 were meant to be rejected and that reference to claims 96-132 is a typo in the office action.

Respectfully submitted,

2/1/07 Date __

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